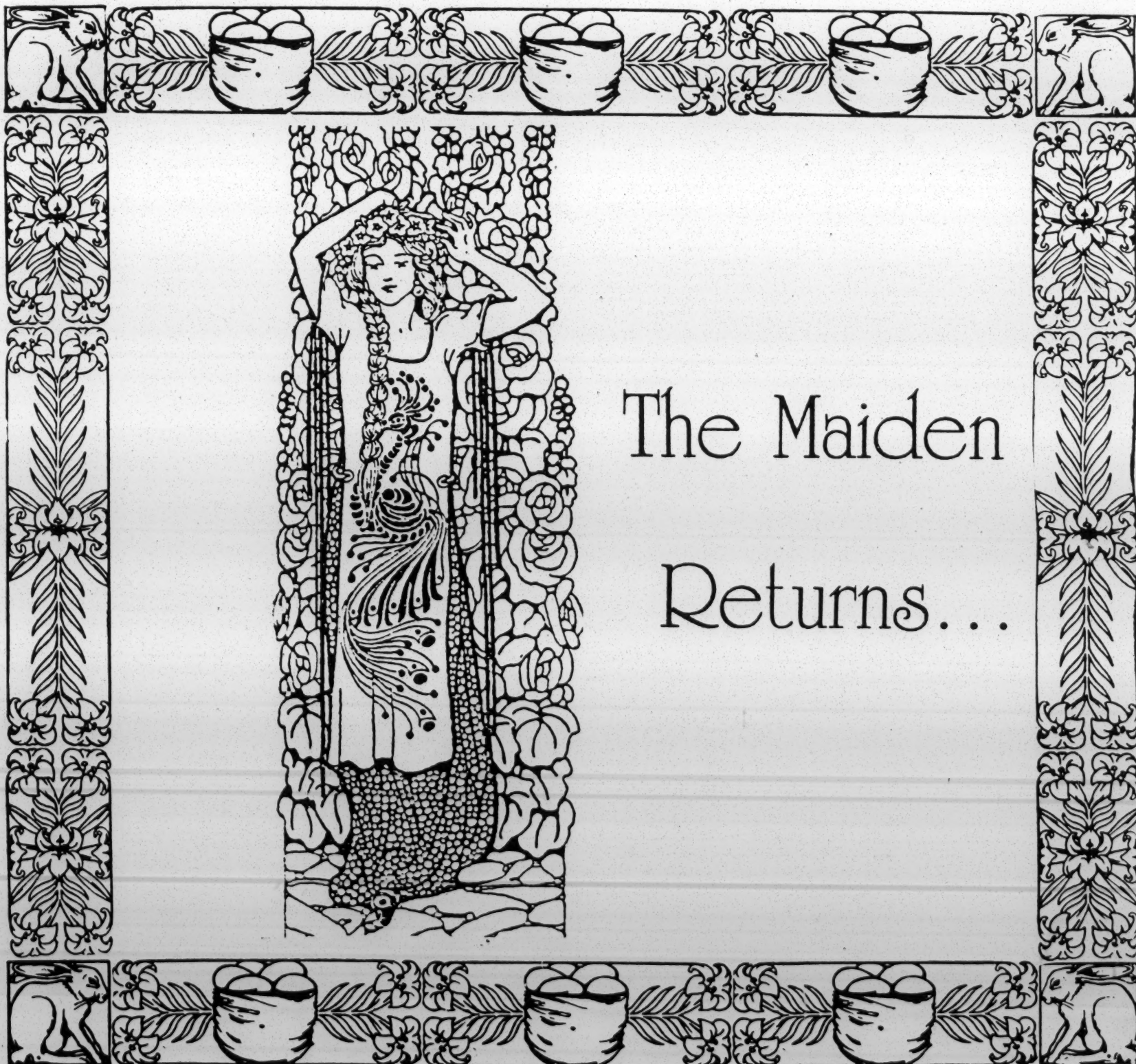


# The Serpent's Tail

A Seasonal Journal to  
help carry us through  
the transition.  
Come join the  
Earthdwellers,  
Mythmakers, and  
Transformation  
Dancers!

Spring/Beltane 1991



The Maiden  
Returns...





*The Serpent is an ancient symbol that has been revered by many cultures from China to India to native North America. It represents the image of the life force in the field of space and time, continually throwing off death and being reborn. As the snake sheds its skin to be born again, so too does life shed its generations one after the other and create new ones. The serpent is in the form of a circle eating its own tail, as does life live by killing and eating of itself, dying and rebirthing, like the moon casts its shadow to become full again. The serpent thus is a representation of the primal mystery and paradox of life.*

*The ancients recognized that the Earth had various energy lines and their connecting nodules that also corresponded to the nervous systems of Earth creatures. These energy lines were perceived as winged serpent or dragon tracks which carried power from one place to the other. These so-called "ley-lines" were traced across our planet from the menhirs of the neolithic people in England and Ireland (where mysterious "circles" are suddenly appearing today) to the Dragon Vein Processions in Asia to the Great Serpent Mound in prehistoric Ohio.*

*We once again recognize the connections between the macrocosm and the microcosm, between our bodies and the Earthbody so that we can try to keep in harmony with the Earth as Gaia, as a Serpent Force; a living organism with a delicate balance and narrow parameters between life and death.*

### **Mission Statement**

*"Seasons" is a collective that publishes The Serpent's Tail, a quarterly seasonal journal that has been conceived to evoke planetary consciousness, the reverence of Natural Laws and advocates a wholistic and balanced approach to all things. We believe that human beings are not meant to take "Dominion of the Earth" as written in the patriarchal Bible, but are a part of the Great Web of Life in which all creatures are interdependent. Of imminent importance is the preservation of our planet, of Earthmother, for it is Her body that sustains us. We are endangering our planet and therefore ourselves through overpopulation, the burning of fossil fuels and other consequences of the Industrial Revolution. The forces that have driven the modern industrial consumer world will have to reckon with the "life out of balance" (Koyaanisqatsi) they have created. Prometheus's act of stealing fire caused him to be condemned by the Gods for upsetting the natural order. Any favoring of manmade laws over Natural Laws or any favoring of human life over other co-creatures will cause imbalance. Thus it is better to utilize the planet's natural sun, wind and water energy for fuel. When considering our planet, we should "Let it Be" as much as we can.*

*The Natural Laws are the governing principle behind everything and apply to us all. The world of form, of creation, is the process that unfolds according to the underlying Natural Laws. Power comes from knowing which direction the flow is going and acting accordingly. Therefore, it is wise to observe and consider these laws and work with them.*

*One of these Natural Laws is the Law of Polarity. This Law states that all things contain their complementary opposite. As a pendulum that swings too much in one direction and therefore must swing back again, any over-determined action in any one area will produce its exact opposite or polarity. By studying the Law of Polarity, we realize paradoxically that freedom comes from obedience to the Natural Order, power comes through cooperation, the wise leader leads without coercion, independence comes through service and greatness is achieved through selflessness.*

*In order for a change in outside manifestation to take place, there first must be a change of consciousness within. The greatest is reflected in the smallest and vice versa. We are on the path in search for new explanations to the age-old Great Mysteries. We are looking to Science for our Creation Myths as the 2000 year-old book is no longer valid for our times. We therefore are asking our readers to help rewrite the old myths that no longer reflect the "Zeitgeist" that we live in and create the mythology that will determine the New Aeon as we enter the turning of the Millenium.*

**As Above. So Below**



## 1991 Earthday

Earthday will be celebrated April 20th in Washington Park. For many Americans, the 1970 Earth Day signaled the start of the modern environmental movement. Last year, the twentieth anniversary of Earth Day marked a rededication to working for environmental justice. We continue the tradition.

In its own way, Earth Day is one of the major religious events of the twentieth century. Like many civil rights movements, the environmental movement seemed to rise from the grassroots in the 1970's. From the social change movement of the 70's came new ways of interpreting the world, new communities and networks, and new standards of ethical conduct.

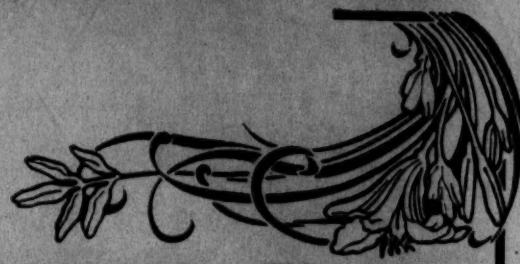
The environmental movement, like the women's and gay/lesbian rights movements, blossomed during the 1970's without significant input from the major Western and Eastern faiths. Although religious leaders from both the right and the left had been active in social change efforts during the 1960's, there were no Billy Graham figures or radical Jesuits prominent among the first Earth Day activists. The major religious institutions were usually uninvolved in early discussions about animal rights and wilderness preservation.

Twenty one years ago, historians and philosophers such as Arnold Toynbee and Lynn White blamed the Judeo-Christian tradition for having created the

environmental crisis. That was a bit hard, and inevitably, many typewriters chattered away to provide a defense of Western theology in various scholarly journals. The major Eastern traditions, in their American incarnations, might have had a poetic appreciation of rivers and mountains, but they were rapidly withdrawing into "self enlightenment". In 1970, if you wanted to do something to help to preserve the planet, you weren't likely to turn to gurus or bishops. Activists went elsewhere.

Earth Day developed in many ways as a "Pagan affair," influenced by assorted counter-culturalists, freethinkers, nature and science mystics, and other "radicals" who had found an ecological approach to spirituality. Many environmentalists talked openly about pantheistic and polytheistic religions and philosophies such as Wicca, Taoism, and the Native American traditions. Journalists during the early 1970's started to joke that the environmentalists were "Druids" and "tree worshippers" and, as is often the case in mythology, there is an element of truth in the mass media's story. Activists were taking inspiration from Thoreau, Emerson, John Muir, and other writers who were somewhat removed from the mainstream of American religion. In many cases, Earth Day provides a choice opportunity to help others see the drawbacks of dominance-over cultural thinking and the





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obvious good sense of interactive nature-centered spiritual traditions.

The spiritual dimension of green politics is more likely to motivate change than political debate. Our spirituality also protects us from political burnout because it provides us with a nurturing and self-renewal that a rally or congressional bill victory cannot. Twenty-one years ago, with the first Earth Day, there was a split between the back-to-the-land advocates and the politicians. It appeared that the politicians won out. Because politics seems to have an inherent 'top down' hierarchy built into it, the changes that came about were often superficial and ultimately ineffective. The twentieth anniversary of Earth Day incorporated in its campaign a healthy respect for the grassroots commitment by the people because this is where the changes have to occur if they are to be lasting. I'm reminded of the saying "If the people lead, eventually the leaders will follow". Before we can hold others accountable, we have to take responsibility in our own lives for living ecologically sound. Recycling, composting and 'right livelihood' are just benchmarks to notice when we have truly integrated our commitment with our daily lives. I know I am always delighted to discover fellow composters!

Eco-feminist Carol Christ has said "that which is not celebrated tends to be devalued in our society". It seems

appropriate to mark this event, Earth Day, with religious observance. For many, the Environmental Sabbath - Earth Day's religious and spiritual community outreach - was the most significant project of the Earth Day activities. The United Nations originated the Environmental Sabbath idea some years ago. Its purpose of interfaith observance and celebration seeks to find common ground amongst different faiths and spiritual traditions, in order to work together toward restoring the planet. The Environmental Sabbath dedication of Earth Day brought Pagans, Christians, Jews (7th principal), Unitarian Universalists, Bahais, Quakers (11th commandment), Greek Orthodox, Buddhists, and other non-sectarian spiritually sensitive people together in environmental worship and celebration.

This year's Earth Day theme is sustainability. The Environmental Sabbath outreach is in need of a coordinator. Any interested parties should contact the Earth Day office at the Peace Action Center or director Tony Stamus (444-TANG).

You don't have to be a pagan in order to care about our planet. Earth Day is worth celebrating and sharing with others the joys, concerns, and wisdom of our culture.



Nancy Kellogg



**"And what rough beast, its hour come  
round at last,  
Slouches toward Bethlehem to be  
born?"**

These words are the last stanza of a poem called *The Second Coming*, written by William Butler Yeats in 1921. In it, he describes the twilight of a 2,000 year Christian cycle and the excitement he felt as the Wheel of Time began to turn towards the New Aeon. This concept is reflected in the Age of Aquarius that was heralded in the 1960s which later came to be called the New Age of today. Often it is talked of as the transition or cusp between the Piscean Age (Christ's symbol was the fish) that is passing and the Aquarian Age that is dawning.

What exactly is this New Age of Aquarius and what will some of its characteristics be? One way we can find out is to look at the astrological aspects of the sign of Aquarius and see how these have manifested themselves in the outside world.

One of the characteristics of Aquarius is that of peace, harmony and coming together. There have been many examples of this happening beginning with the hippie counterculture of the 1960s who wanted to live together tribally and communally off the land. They rejected the suburban isolation in pre-fab houses that was so much touted in the 1950s. Although some of these communes fell prey to unrealistic expectations and unwanted freeloaders, many of them managed to survive and are still thriving today such as The Farm in Tennessee, the Findhorn Foundation in Scotland, Twin Oaks in Virginia, and East Wind Community in Missouri, among others.

We also recently witnessed a truly blessed event when the Schandmauer (wall of shame as the Germans called it), came tumbling down as a country came together and destroyed this monument to man's stupidity and sold it to the tourists.

Besides the unification of Germany, we have witnessed the people of the Eastern European block countries banding together and standing up to a powerful oppressor in order to seek their own identity. Many people have come together on sidewalks, in cafes and in places like Tienanmen and Wenceslas Square to seek freedom and autonomy from vast, centralized bureaucracies. The new governments of Poland and Czechoslovakia, the overthrow of the cruel Romanian dictator and the release of Nelson Mandela after 26 years in prison all testify that the chains of the old order are rapidly fading.

Not only have people come together to form

new governments, but governments have come together to fight an enemy. The unprecedented cooperation of so many countries to fight Hussein in Operation Desert Storm bears testament to this. This may be the first example of a Cooperative War which could only have been made possible by advances in communications technologies that allow people to come together and interact on a global scale.

The Aquarian manifestation of "Come Together" has played itself out not only on the world stage but in smaller communities. In fact, another aspect of the Aquarian Age is unity and equality as opposed to the duality (two fish swimming in opposite directions) of the Piscean Age. We see a move toward the concept of neighborhood as more of them get named and receive their own colorful banner throughout the city. Our Mayor is depending upon the neighborhoods and other community-based organizations to help fight crime and keep drugs off the street. Even our venerable public school system has been broken up into smaller parts that are easier to manage and where teachers may have more input. These changes, however, can become very stressful to those that held high positions in the vast, centralized old order since their perceived power has been diminished. The trend is thus away from the concept of higher versus lower and more toward a network or web configuration.

The recognition of this shift in consciousness is also something that members of the Pagan community can benefit from. I would urge caution when considering any group that has a centralized, hierarchal system with a great charismatic leader or a much-advertised \$300 New Age Guru. This type of structure is still part of the old order and is not in accordance with the more cooperative, leaderless, weblike structure of the New Age. Often these types of groups will appoint themselves as the ultimate authority on matters as they issue their official doctrines. Another drawback to groups that boast of a Great Leader is that they also tend to attract various groupies who need the leader to tell them what to do while at the same time ingratiating themselves in order to gain influence and favor with the leader.

I have found in my own experience that those who brag the most about how magically powerful they are can usually be the most irresponsible in the mundane world and leave others with a lot of unpaid bills. Thus I am always skeptical when someone tells me that they are a 3rd Degree Magician or any other title. It always makes me think of the old Chinese proverb: Those who talk, don't know and



those who know, don't talk. I would rather look at what a person does in the world of form rather than what they say they are going to do. In other words, rather than believing what someone says about how powerful they are, observe their actions in their "lowly mundane" life because actions speak louder than words.

Many Pagans also tend to reject the physical, material mundane world in favor of the spiritual. This is unfortunate, especially since one of our basic tenets is that the physical and the spiritual are *not* separate. We celebrate the fact that the woods and the rocks are alive with nature spirits but may have difficulty relating to the fact that our mundane lives are also infused with the divine. Perhaps we are reacting to the over-emphasis on the material world, that is so dominant in our culture, at the expense of the soul. Instead of swinging too much in the other direction and becoming too diffuse and ethereal, we need to seek once again the balance, the Middle Pillar between the two worlds of the sacred and the profane.

Another manifestation of the Aquarian concept of equality is the need to seek a better balance between the pairs of opposites. Since the Vernal Equinox is the time of equal day and equal night, now is the time to think about how more equilibrium can be brought into the world. This concept of balance is known as the Law of Polarity and is discussed in The Serpent's Tail Mission Statement. It states that all things contain their complementary opposites. Anything that swings toward its own extreme becomes its opposite. It is therefore foolish to deny one of the opposites simply because we don't like it. The Law of Balance or Polarity is one of the Natural Laws and can be nicely demonstrated by the action of a stone across a pond. The stone will disturb the water and cause ripples to occur, but Nature will always seek a balance. The equilibrium of the water is regained and the pond becomes still again. That is also why most grades on a curve will fall in the middle or average range and why most people are average, common folk.

One of the more dangerous consequences that denies the Law of Complementary Opposites is inherited from Judeo-Christian religious tradition. This is the complete denial and separation of evil in the world and only the acknowledgement of light and the good. This is why Lucifer (which means light) was separated from God and thrown out of Heaven to be condemned to live forever in the dark abyss of Hell. Here we have created a psychological schism between evil/good, God/Devil, Heaven/Hell, spirit/

flesh, and so on and so on... These are Piscean manifestations of duality and moral judgments upon the natural phenomenon in the world. The Orientals were much wiser in their concept of yin and yang where the opposites complement as well as contrast; where the one is unrecognizable without the other.

The dilemma of the world being divided into good and evil is most succinctly illustrated in Hermann Hesse's book Demian where the main character was brought up in a very pious, righteous and quiet household. He meets a strange and mysterious classmate called Max Demian who teaches him about the darker, forbidden half of the world. The following quote from the book best emphasizes this point as Demian says: "But I have to tell you something: this is one of the very places that reveals the poverty of this religion most distinctly. The point is that this God of both Old and New Testaments is certainly an extraordinary figure but not what he purports to represent. He is all that is good, noble, fatherly, beautiful, elevated, sentimental - true! But the world consists of something else besides. And what is left over is ascribed to the devil, this entire slice of world, this entire half is suppressed and hushed up. In exactly the same way they praise God as the father of all life but simply refuse to say a word about our sexual life on which its all based, describing it whenever possible as sinful, the work of the devil. I have no objection to worshiping this God Jehovah, far from it. But I mean we ought to consider everything sacred, the entire world, not merely this artificially separated half! Thus alongside the divine service we should also have a service for the devil. I feel that would be right. Otherwise you must create for yourself a God that contains the devil too and in front of which you needn't close your eyes when the most natural things in the world take place."

How did it happen that the Christian religion put so much emphasis on the good? How did they help create the holy and pious smiles that churchgoers give to each other in their Sunday best? An interesting hypothesis is presented by well-known anthropologist Marvin Harris in his book Cows, Pigs, Wars and Witches. In it, he has a chapter called "The Secret of the Prince of Peace." Here, he talks about the historical background that preceded the writing of the Bible and the spread of the gospels. At that period of time in Judea, there was a lot of tension between the Jews and the occupying Roman forces. Since the Jews had often been defeated by the Romans and were subjugated citizens, there were many wandering preachers in the desert who dreamed



Justice (15th century deck)



of a great Messiah who would come and free the Jews from bondage and create another mighty nation as in the days of King David. These wandering messianic messengers lived primarily as hermits in the desert, subsisting mainly on insects and honey. It is believed that John the Baptist was one of these messengers as well as Jesus of Nazareth. These preachers were considered a threat to the Romans as they aroused feelings of Jewish nationalism and acts of violence against the Roman State. Apparently Jesus was quite a rabble-rouser himself and the acts of violence that were committed on his behalf when he rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday have never been mentioned in the Bible.

The reason they were never mentioned is because of the final Fall of Jerusalem in 70 A.D. It is at this point in history that the Jews were finally decisively crushed by the Romans and the Jewish messianic messengers were forced underground into hiding. The radical, violent anti-Roman movement had an image problem and that had to be changed. After Paul decided to spread the word about Jesus of Nazareth as the new Savior to non-Jews as well as Jews, he had to tone down the radicalness associated with him in order to make him more palatable to the non-Jewish and Roman masses. Thus was born the Prince of Peace who was only good and peaceful and full of light while at the same time ignored the other half of the world. By trying to appease the Romans, a false picture was presented which ultimately led to the unnatural split we have inherited to this day.

All of this makes quite interesting reading if you would care to check the book out. The author also has an interesting hypothesis about the true cause of the witchhunts. Some of you may be perturbed by the chapter called "Return of the Witch" which I will not go into detail about but will let you read for yourself.

As we come back to the idea of creating balance in the New Age between good and evil, creative and destructive we first need to recognize where the imbalances are. One of these, which also is heavily influenced by our Christian tradition, is the idea of "life above all." This doctrine that advocates the abolition of birth control and abortion or life at all costs has dire consequences. A perfect illustration of this philosophy is when the Romanian dictator banned abortion in his country in order to provide more citizens for his State. Many of us have seen the gruesome images of the overcrowded orphanages of unwanted children that are fed like animals by understaffed attendants. We have also seen the

heinous images of terminally ill people as they wither away surrounded by feeding tubes. And we are the only species that keeps its severely malformed and retarded alive - an act that would never occur in nature. All of these acts are committed in the name of love and "humanitarianism." Many, though, are in actuality ways for the church to increase its coffers as it begs for money to feed and pray for the poor while at the same time banning birth control and perpetuating the misery.

Many people lament the death of soldiers in wars, as is only natural. But when you look at it more closely, it is the men who wage war and it is mostly they who die. The reason Nature has made it this way is because the men, like the drones, are expendable as long as there are enough women to perpetuate the tribe/race/species. That is also why women and children are given special protection during war-time. War may also serve as an important form of population control on an already overcrowded-with-humans Gaia.

Another old Chinese proverb has a rich man asking a sage for a happy story. The sage says, "Father dies, son dies, grandson dies." The rich man says, "What kind of story is that? That is not a happy story!" The sage says, "Would you have it any other way?"

On the other hand, we can see an imbalance in the other direction, where the destructive, masculine forces are given too much power at the expense of the creative, feminine forces. That is why many have raised their voice for programs such as Jobs with Peace and talked about the "peace dividend." They want to see as much time and energy that is invested in the military to also be used in creating nourishing systems such as universal health care for the people and better care for the nation's children. Since there is a natural progression between death and rebirth, we cannot deny one and favor the other, whether it be creative or destructive - we must always strive for equilibrium.

Another impact of the New Age is the return of the Goddess. Everywhere we are seeing the Great Mother come back in rituals, women's circle meetings, moon lodges, Goddess massage therapy, First Blood rites, etc. Women are taking back the powers that had long been attributed to them such as special powers for divination, healing and midwifery. They are coming together to create a counter-balance on equal footing with the male divinity.

In seeking equality with men, some feminists have been misguided in trying to use power like men and felt they had to be construction workers and



*Waite Tarot Deck*



Chairmen of the Board in order to be equal to men. This led to the denigration of one of women's most important functions - that of mother. She who helps mold the next generation was thought of as merely a housewife - not nearly as important as those busy career women we see on T.V. ads.

The reality is that women's power is different from that of men, that it is more of a subtle force, and works much like the yielding water that eventually conquers the hardest of rock. It is a force in its own right, and a necessary one to complement the masculine force.

The reason why women have been left out of the mainstream is again due to our patriarchal religious system where the main deities are male. The Virgin Mary is a remnant of the ancient Goddess but is very one-dimensional and has been disempowered and desexed. This hatred toward women was probably due to the fact that when the ancient Hebrews came to crush the Canaanites, they had to usurp a people who worshipped a Goddess whose most powerful symbol was the serpent. That is why the serpent had become so reviled and we often see statues of the Virgin Mary trampling serpents underfoot. Since the serpent is a symbol of the life-force itself, this new religion had a life-denying and therefore woman-denying creed since woman is the bringer of life into the world.

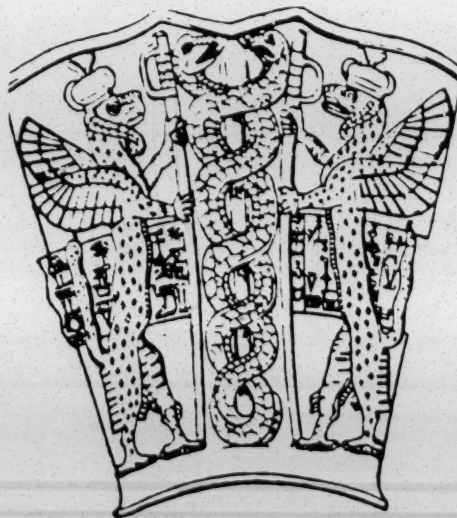
The Virgin Mary is often shown in a submissive and chaste pose because this is the model that men wished their women to emulate. If society puts much importance on a woman being a virgin when she marries and doesn't expect the same from the man, it is probably to ensure that any future children definitely belong to the man. In primitive societies, it didn't matter who the father was since the children were raised by the tribe and inheritance was matrilineal. The mother's brother was more important than the father because one knew the child was definitely related to the mother's family.

Since sex is one of the most powerful and sacred natural forces, it is no wonder that the new anti-woman and therefore anti-nature religion was so fearful of it. Women were portrayed as evil temptresses who had to bear children in pain as punishment for Original Sin. When are we going to stop perpetuating these hurtful accusations? I live in a very Catholic neighborhood with many chaste Mary statues around me and am compelled to counteract

them with a naked Venus...

The myth that has also perpetuated this concept of woman is the misinterpretation of the Adam and Eve story. How often have you heard that it was "Eve who gave the apple to Adam?" Joseph Campbell tries to clarify this myth for us by saying that the apple that Eve gave to Adam came from the serpent on the Tree of Knowledge. Since the serpent represents the life-force, this means that woman is the one that brings life into the world. Eve is the mother of the world of form. No one comes into the world or into knowledge than by way of woman so that it could only be that Eve was the one who presented the apple. She is the giver of life or the knowledge bringer. The serpent that is wound around the Tree of Knowledge is at the pivotal point or *axis mundi* where time and eternity come together.

Once she has birthed the child into the temporal world, he has to leave the eternal garden because once you come into the world of form, you also enter the world of opposites and dualities. The garden represents eternity, the void, the dreamtime. After Adam ate the apple, they recognized that they were naked, namely that they were opposites and no longer one. In gaining the knowledge of the world of duality, one loses one's innocence as we realize that evil exists in the world and we can no longer stay in the rosy garden. We spend the rest of our lives trying to get back into the dreamtime garden, back with the One, back to the All. (...and we've got to get ourselves back to the garden.)



*A Sumerian libation cup in which two lion birds open the portals to the tree of immortal life. This may be the earliest appearance of the caduceus of Hermes/Mercury, who guided souls to the knowledge of immortal life.*



The misinterpretation of this myth is the condemnation of Eve for all the evils of the world because she was the naughty temptress may be the largest strike to women in the Western world. Joseph Campbell maintains that the myth of the Fall still affects us to this day. He says in his book The Power of Myth that "the story of the serpent as seducer amounts to a refusal to affirm life. In the biblical tradition we have inherited, life is corrupt, and every natural impulse is sinful unless it has been circumcised or baptized. The serpent was the one who brought sin into the world. And the woman was the one who handed the apple to man. This identification of the woman with sin, of the serpent with sin, and thus of life with sin, is the twist that has been given to the whole story in the biblical myth and doctrine of the Fall."

It is no wonder then that we have been engaging in a continuous rape of nature and Mother Earth if our holy book tells us that "Man shall have dominion over the Earth, and the birds in the air and the fishes in the sea...." Fortunately, in the New Age dawning there has been an increasing awareness of the environment and the havoc we are wreaking on Gaia, who sustains us. We are becoming more aware of the fact that the Earth is a living organism and that we need Her to survive. We are not separate from Nature, humans are not the center of the Universe, there is no schism between God in Heaven and Humans below. We are a small part of Nature and we all depend on each other.

The resurgence of environmental movements and Earth awareness that faded in the 1970s is coming back stronger than ever before. The words of Black Elk echo back to us: "Man is just a strand in the web of life. What he does to the web will be returned to him.... The man killed the bird and in so doing killed himself."

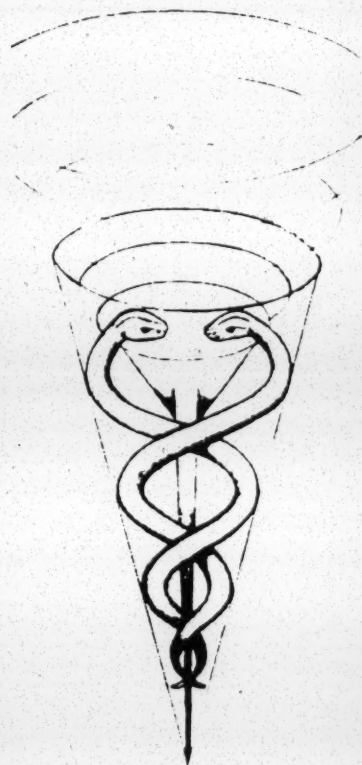
The recent acclaim for the film "Dances with Wolves" is an encouraging sign for our times. First of all it is a significant departure from the previous Westerns that always showed the Indians as brutal savages with a limited vocabulary of "How! Me chief Sitting Bull." In this movie, the Indians are shown speaking their own native language with English subtitles. The clothing and ornamentation of the Sioux had been carefully researched and was as accurate as possible. The main thing however, that I believe struck a favorable chord with the public was

that "Dances with Wolves" reminded people of a whole different way of regarding nature and native peoples. We were reminded of our own destructiveness towards the Indians and the buffalo and anything else that was wild and untamed. We were reminded of our own fear of nature and our own need to divide the land into neatly "owned" parcels and to domesticate anything that is wild. This concept was magnificently portrayed in the movie when the Indians come upon a herd of buffalo that had been massacred, only their skins and tongues taken and the rest of their carcasses left to waste away and rot. One of the Sioux warriors looks upon the scene in disbelief and says, "Who are these people who kill without asking?"

Here we have a whole different philosophy which regards animals as being sacred and acknowledges them as our brothers. The Indians always thanked the buffalo for giving their lives in order that the people may live. The buffalo's hearts were buried beneath a tree after butchering in order to ensure a plentiful herd in the future. This certainly is very different from the 500 cows and pigs that are slaughtered every day at the Oscar Mayer processing plant so that Americans may satisfy their hunger for meat. I doubt if anyone there ever thanks the animals for their sacrifice.

When the buffalo was killed, all parts were used. This is in sharp contrast to those who shot buffalo for sport from the trains and left them to rot on the open plain. After all the buffalo had been killed, the Indians lost their source of food, clothing, shelter and most importantly, their sacred animal and religion. Toward the end of the movie, the killing of the wild wolf by the soldiers and the domestication of the Indians on the reservations was a reminder of how we as a society view nature in general.

Contrast our viewpoint with farmers in India, for example, who sometimes get killed by wild tigers from the jungle. These Hindus accept the loss of an occasional human to the tiger as a natural consequence that has to be accepted in the scheme of things. They maintain that since they also kill tigers, that occasionally one of them should be given to the tiger in return. There is no fear of tigers, there is no intense program to eradicate them from the jungle forever much like was done to the wolf in Europe and North America. Here we have two different philosophies that are greatly influenced by



*The swirling solar and lunar energies rising up the chakra centers of the spine represent the Kundalini or serpent power of the body.*



their religious belief systems.

Well, where are we today? We have won, we have conquered nature, we have tamed the wild and have created a mostly synthetic environment around us. What are the consequences of this imbalance? We can see it everywhere in the form of environmental illnesses, new epidemics, polluted air and water, crowded landfills, endangered species, global warming, changing weather patterns, extinction of the rainforest, etc., etc. But there is a ray of hope glimmering through in our New Age dawning. Examples of Aquarian Age thinking in order to create healing and wholeness are beginning to emerge. We can see it in the Native American ceremonies for returning warriors used to help heal Vietnam veterans, in the initiation to manhood rituals to help heal our inner city youth and in the public, tribal drumming sessions around bonfires. Many folks are converging harmonically to try to do something about the problem of our society's split from nature. From environmental groups to pagan worshippers to Earth Day to the reaffirmation of native peoples, there is the impetus that will turn the wheel as the New Aeon slouches toward Bethlehem to be born and the Old Age passes before our eyes.....

Karin Clark



Sol and Luna, the Sun and Moon, depicted crowned and holding plants, a dove bringing an offering. From a mediaeval alchemical woodcut.

Dear Friends,

The war in the Middle East has caused alarm around the world. Saddam Hussein and his Republican Guard not only committed atrocities against other nations, but have decided that they have the right to commit atrocities against our Mother Earth. The igniting of oil wells that caused huge columns of black smoke stretching out against the sky for miles will take as many as five years to put out and has produced black, oily rain in the region. We were told that 100,000 barrels of crude oil were dumped into the Persian Gulf which caused the worst oil slick in history. This also inadvertently caused the elimination of wildlife that depend on the habitat to survive, not to mention the drinking water that humans depend on.

These acts will no doubt produce an imbalance in the environment and it will be up to us to restore it. We can start doing this by taking responsibility for our actions here at home. Participation and common sense is all that is required.

Here are some guidelines:

1. Avoid any over-packaged products.
2. Read the label of household products for chemicals that may harm you or the environment.
3. Recycle not just paper goods, aluminum, glass and plastic, but use resale shops for clothing and appliances as a form of recycling too.
4. Use public transportation whenever possible or better yet, when weather permits, ride your bike.
5. Eat only the freshest foods you can. If you grow your own food, familiarize yourself with organic gardening.

***We cannot delay, this will be our greatest challenge, we cannot fail.***

Blessed Be

*The following is a list of recycling centers throughout the city published by the Recycling Office of the City of Milwaukee. It is followed by a list of alternative household products that are not harmful to the environment. For more information on alternative chemical-free household products, refer to the Samhain 1989 issue of The Serpents Tail.*



## ALUMINUM & OTHER METALS

### AEF SALVAGE INC.

3266 N. 95th St.  
871-7920

### A&C SALVAGE

1640 N. 31st St.  
931-0775

### A-1 RECYCLING

2101 W. Morgan Ave.  
281-8900

### BADGER SALVAGE CO. INC.

2335 S. 43 St.  
383-0884

### BALCO METALS INC.

127 S. 11 St.  
645-2700

### BANDOS FELIX WASTE MATERIAL CO.

1132 S. Barclay St.  
272-0900

### CHUDNOW IRON & METAL CO. INC.

5425 W. State St.  
258-8868

### DOMBECK METALS INC.

3456-A N. Buffum St.  
962-2144

### H&R SCRAP METALS & IRON CO. INC.

9000 W. Fond du Lac Ave. St.  
353-4333

### MILLER COMPRESSING CO.

1640 W. Bruce St.  
671-5980

### MILWAUKEE SCRAP METAL CO.

1236 W. Pierce St.  
645-3115

### PARKS-PIONEER CORPORATION

4320 N. 35th St.  
871-0860

### RECYCLE AMERICA RECYCLING CENTER

2020 W. Morgan Ave.  
383-7171

### RECYCLING WORLD INC.

504 W. Cherry St.  
263-2626

3607 N. Richards St.  
332-1700

### REYNOLDS ALUMINUM RECYCLING CENTER

5914 N. Teutonia Ave.  
464-3221

### SCHUSTER METALS INC.

2206 N. 30th St.  
265-2550

### SHAPIRO PAPER & METAL RECYCLING CORP.

1511 N. 31 St.  
933-8531

### STANDARD SCRAP METAL LTD.

3103 W. Auer Ave.  
449-2121

### WOLIN PETER CO. INC.

8520 W. Kaul Ave.  
353-6300

## GLASS

### A-1 RECYCLING

2101 W. Morgan Ave.  
281-8900

### RECYCLE AMERICA RECYCLING CENTER

2020 W. Morgan Ave.  
383-7171

### RECYCLING WORLD INC.

504 W. Cherry St.  
263-2626  
3607 N. Richards St.  
332-1700

## PLASTIC

### BANDOS FELIX WASTE MATERIAL CO.

1132 S. Barclay St.  
272-0900

### RECYCLE AMERICA RECYCLING CENTER

2020 W. Morgan Ave.  
383-7171

### RECYCLING WORLD INC.

504 W. Cherry St.  
263-2626  
3607 N. Richards St.  
332-1700

## PAPER, NEWSPAPER

### A-1 RECYCLING

2101 W. Morgan Ave.  
281-8900

### MILWAUKEE WASTE PAPER

2342 N. Newhall St.  
271-5320

### RECYCLE AMERICA RECYCLING CENTER

2020 W. Morgan Ave.  
383-7171

### RECYCLING WORLD INC.

504 W. Cherry St.  
263-2626

3607 N. Richards St.  
332-1700

### SHAPIRO PAPER & METAL RECYCLING CORP.

1511 N. 31st St.  
933-8531

### STANDARD SCRAP METAL CO.

1845-A N. 5th St.  
263-0530

### STANDARD SCRAP METAL LTD.

3103 W. Auer Ave.  
449-2121

## CLOTHING

### AMERICAN COUNSEL OF THE BLIND THRIFT STORE

109 W. Wilbur Ave.  
483-5955

### BARGAIN CENTER - NORTH

6628 W. Fond du Lac Ave.  
463-2595

### BARGAIN CENTER - SOUTH

1338 S. 11th St.  
645-2595

### THE BARGAIN STORE

1937 W. Mitchell St.  
672-8077

### CARMEN'S RESALE STORE

1219 S. 16th St.  
384-8160

### CENTRE OF ATTENTION

5716 W. Center St.  
873-3330

### THE CHILDREN'S EXCHANGE

2995 S. Delaware Ave.  
482-0838

### CLOTHES CADDY RESALE SHOP

2127 E. Capitol Dr.  
962-5546

### DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS THRIFT STORE

5030 W. Hampton Ave.  
464-0900

1730 S. 13th St.  
643-5599

2430 N. Murray  
964-9530

Pick-up Service  
643-9299



**EAST TOWN WOMEN'S RESALE SHOP**

1104 W. Mitchell St.  
672-3700

**ECONOMY CENTER**

3425 W. North Ave.  
442-2272

**FUR RESALE SHOP**

1533 N. Farwell Ave.  
272-1817

**GLAD RAGS RESALE SHOP**

5315 W. Center St.  
445-1911

**GOODWILL INDUSTRIES**

5675 S. 27th St.  
281-4111

6055 N. 91 St.

353-7900

**HADASSAH COLLECTORS CORNER**

2209 E. Capitol Dr.  
963-9610

**KID'S STUFF**

4429 N. Oakland Ave.  
332-3575

**LITTLE PEOPLE RESALE SHOP**

6924 W. North Ave.  
774-5886

**MASON RESALE LTD.**

424 E. Wells St.  
271-3015

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN THRIFT SHOP**

4606 W. Capitol Dr.  
445-1260

**PS COLLECTION**

1386 W. Hopkins St.  
374-3444

**PENNY WISE SHOP**

626 N. Broadway St.  
276-0584

**PHILLIP'S MINI MART**

4369 N. Teutonia Ave.  
873-8387

**RESALE SHOP**

2003 S. 10th Ave.  
764-6915

**RUMMAGE MART**

3819 W. Fond du Lac Ave.  
444-8681

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL STORES**

1862 W. Fond du Lac Ave.  
342-5720

2320 W. Lincoln Ave.

672-2040

**SECOND TIME AROUND**

5527 W. North Ave.  
871-5020

**SWEET DOOMED ANGEL**

2217 N. Farwell Ave.  
277-0829

**THINGS UNLIMITED**

2635 W. Vliet St.  
342-6262

**TONY'S SECOND HAND STORE**

1031 W. National Ave.  
672-0227

**VIKTOR-VIKTORIA**

3483 N. Oakland Ave.  
964-1945

**ST. JUDE CONGREGATION**

822 N. Glenview Ave.  
259-0975

**ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

2614 E. Bellview Pl.  
962-2332

**ST. PAUL'S THRIFT SHOP**

1324 N. Marshall St.  
276-5520

**VALUE VILLAGE**

1828 W. National Ave.  
383-5022

324 W. North Ave.

264-5320

**MISCELLANEOUS****A CITY ESTATE FURNITURE**

3619 W. Villard Ave.  
462-4701

**AMERICAN COUNSEL OF THE BLIND THRIFT STORE**

109 W. Wilbur Ave.  
483-5955

**BARGAIN CENTER-NORTH**

6628 W. Fond du Lac Ave.  
463-2595

**BARGAIN CENTER-SOUTH**

1338 S. 11th St.  
645-2595

**THE BARGAIN STORE**

1937 W. Mitchell St.  
672-8077

**BOOK READER**

4479 N. 76th St.  
462-4322

**CARMEN'S RESALE STORE**

1219 S. 16th St.  
384-8160

**THE CHILDREN'S EXCHANGE**

2995 S. Delaware Ave.  
482-0838

**CLOTHES CADDY RESALE SHOP**

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242-5151

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464-0900

1730 S. 13th St.

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672-3700

**GOODWILL INDUSTRIES**

5675 S. 27th St.  
281-4111

6055 N. 91 St.

353-7900

**HADASSAH COLLECTORS CORNER**

2209 E. Capitol Dr.  
963-9610

**JACKSON'S BUDGET STORE**

1227 W. Vliet St.  
933-4779

**NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN THRIFT SHOP**

4606 W. Capitol Dr.  
445-1260

**PENNY WISE SHOP**

626 N. Broadway St.  
276-0584

**PHILLIP'S MINI MART**

4369 N. Teutonia Ave.  
873-8387



**RECYCLE AMERICA RECYCLING CENTER**

2020 W. Morgan Ave.  
383-7171

**RUELLE'S FURNITURE CENTER**

905 S. 16th St.  
383-0260

**RUMMAGE MART**

3819 W. Fond du Lac Ave.  
444-8681

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL STORES**

1862 W. Fond du Lac Ave.  
342-5720

2320 W. Lincoln Ave.  
672-2040

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672-0227

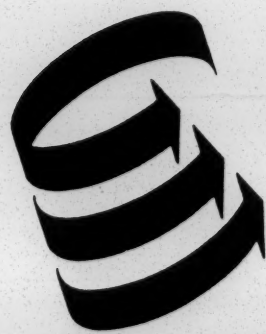
**VIKTOR-VIKTORIA**

3483 N. Oakland Ave.  
964-1945

**VALUE VILLAGE**

1828 W. National Ave.  
383-5022

324 W. North Ave.  
264-5320



Recycling Office  
City of Milwaukee  
Department of Public Works  
841 N. Broadway - Room 516  
Milwaukee, WI 53202  
(414) 278-3500



**T**ry these non-toxic or less-toxic products as *alternatives* to hazardous chemicals. A little more "elbow grease" required, but you will experience benefits such as improved air quality, fewer waste disposal concerns, less exposure to chemicals and **LOWER COSTS!**

**FOR THIS:**

air freshener

ants in house

bleach

brass polish

chrome polish

general household cleaner

copper cleaner

dish detergent;  
grease cutter

drain cleaner

flies

**USE THIS:**simmer cinnamon  
and clovesred chili powder at  
entry points

borax

Worcestershire sauce

apple vinegar

baking soda

lemon juice and salt

½ c. baking soda and  
liquid detergentplunger, ½ c. baking soda,  
½ c. vinegar and 2 qts.  
boiling water

well-watered pot of basil

furniture polish

grease removal

laundry detergent

linoleum cleaner

mildew removal

mosquito repellent

moth control

oil stain removal

paint

paint brush softener

paint on hands

perspiration spot  
removalporcelain stain  
removal

rust removal/clothing

toilet bowl cleaner

window cleaner

1 tbsp. lemon oil in 1 pint  
mineral oil

borax on damp cloth

boxed soap powder

2 gal. water &amp; 1 c. vinegar

equal parts vinegar &amp; salt

citronella candles or oil

cedar chips in  
cotton sachetswhite chalk rubbed into  
stain and launder

water based, non-aerosol

hot vinegar

baby oil

white vinegar &amp; salt

baking soda

lemon juice + salt + sun

borax and lemon juice

2 tbsps. vinegar in 1 qt.  
warm water

...brought to you by the Essex, Connecticut  
Conservation Commission





OSTARA: RISE AND SHINE--  
THE SNOW QUEEN  
IS HAVING FECUND THOUGHTS

Ostara, or Eostre, a teutonic fertility goddess, lends her name to Eostar, "Easter" and the beginning of the Spring season. We remember her at the Vernal Equinox (March 20-21) with common and powerful symbols of the generative forces: eggs and rabbits.

In many cultures of the world, eggs are representative of birth and creation. The ovum, so much like the seed, contains the generative blueprint for us and many of our fellow creatures: a self-contained nurturing and protective system.

The hare is an Egyptian (among other) symbol of springtime and fertility. A prolific breeder, the March hare or cute (chocolate or carob, maybe?) bunny rabbit represents fertility and sensuality.

Working with these symbols to celebrate Ostara can be a time of empowerment to get ideas and plans in motion. As March, the Aries time, is the astrological beginning of the zodiacal calendar, we can approach the Vernal Equinox as the time of transformation that it is: not only are the day and night of equal length on this day, but the rebirth of the Spring is officially nigh and the warmth is coming in the days of lengthening sun. We welcome the spring maiden back from her underground resting place. It is no longer a time for hibernation and dormancy, but the time for activity and creativity to return.

To help us put our energy into motion and use this time as our own seed time, paint hard-boiled or blown eggs with symbols you choose to represent that trait or situation that you most want to receive guidance from or

invite into your life. Concentrate on your intention to bring about a change or strike a new balance in your life, and fashion your desire in whatever symbols and colors feel right or otherwise appeal to you.

The Pysanky, or Ukrainian egg, is an art of ancient tradition carried forward from pre-Christian times. The rich symbolism still imparted through the designs has its roots in universal pagan symbols of the sun, continuity and eternity, rebirth (the archetypical dying and risen god), life and fertility.

To make colored eggs, you may want to try natural dyes like yellow onion skin, beet juice, and purple grape juice, as well as many varieties of plants. The colors are more interesting than the store bought tablet varieties. Also, by coloring the eggs with your own nature-derived dyes, you boost your intentions by imparting more of your magical essence (along with the plant's) into what you create.

Then, according to your own inner voice and guided by your intention, keep your egg to meditate or scry on its purpose; or give the egg away to put out the call for your desire; or bury the egg as a "seed" to generate that which you requested.

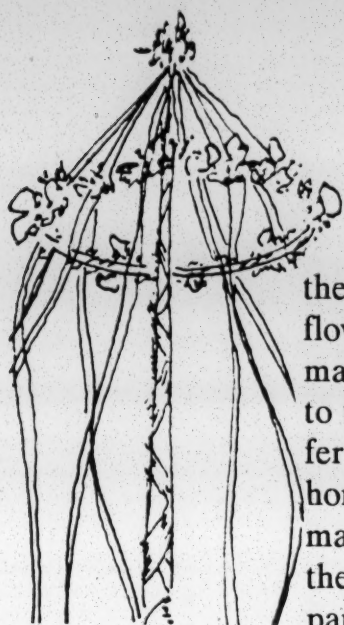
Let the spirit of the new spring move you. Open your heart to receive the regenerative influences of the maiden Spring. This can be the best possible of fertile beginnings, so nurture that which you sow...



Merry Be

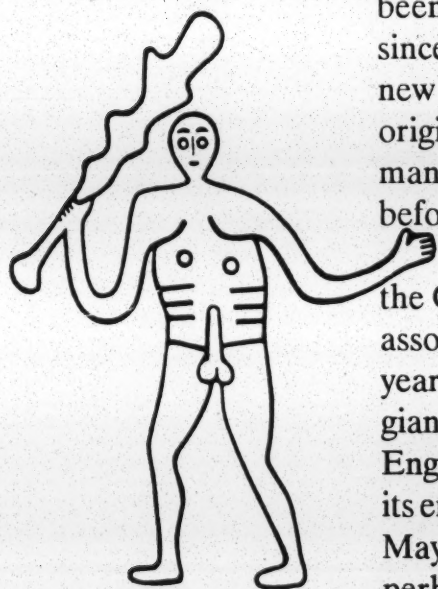
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## Multiple Maypole Mutations

Many of us are familiar with the symbol of the maypole and its colorful streaming ribbons and flowers. What a lot of people don't know is that the maypole is actually a phallic symbol and connected to the ancient Celtic celebration of Beltane. This fertility festival was celebrated on May 1st and honored the flowering of nature by driving the maypole into the ground to stimulate the growth of the crops in the coming summer season. In many parts of Europe this festival is still celebrated in much the same way along with a May Queen who represents the fresh youthfulness of nature in her season of full blooming. The overtly sexual act of driving the maypole into the ground has become sanitized (probably due to the Christian fear of sexuality) and the true meaning of the festival has been largely sublimated and forgotten. However, since The Serpent's Tail is dedicated to creating the new myths and restoring the old ones to their original intentions, we would like to explore the many transformations the maypole went through before reaching its present incarnation.



*The Cerne Giant  
Precursor  
to the Maypole*

Its earliest origins may have been related to the Celtic god Cernunnos, the horned god who was associated with the Oak Tree, symbol of the waxing year. It is believed that the 180-foot tall "Cerne" giant which is carved into a hillside in Dorsetshire, England was a representation of the god-force with its erect penis and brandishing a club. For centuries, May Day rites were performed inside the giant, perhaps inside the godhead itself and the Maypole may have replaced the earlier tradition of these fertility rites. Thus the Maypole in its earlier form was much taller and without ribbons. It was crowned with a ring of flowers symbolizing female fertility. (Incidentally, in parts of Germany today, the young girls of the village sit on the ring itself during the May Day celebrations.)

Another event that accompanies the dance around the Maypole is the Godiva (Goddess) procession which is still reenacted in England today. The Godiva is not the later desexed version that we are so familiar with but was a representative of the Spring Maiden and the flowering of life. In olden times, she rode her horse naked without shame before she was covered with long flaxen hair and a pink body suit. In the early 70's, some brave women decided to ride naked again in the Godiva procession but they still needed the protection of long wigs. The girl chosen to be the Godiva was usually a teenager who was chosen for her good behavior and to be allowed to ride nude

was considered an honor among the other girls. Her companions scattered flowers over the bystanders and in some places she was preceded by an old woman on a black horse. She was the Spring Maiden who drove away the darkness of winter and her freshness of young womanhood gave promise for the blooming of life to come.

Another interesting coincidence is the fact that Godiva rides into town on a white mare. The white mare is the totem animal of the Celtic Goddess Epona. Her many bas-reliefs included an image of the Goddess lying half-naked on the back of her horse. She was known as the Great Mother and her role as a fertility Goddess was represented by the sheaf of corn in her lap and the cornucopia or goblet in her hand. (The Roman fertility Goddess holds an egg and a rooster in her hands.) Many believe that the White Horse of Uffington in England which is also cut into the vast countryside and seen from the air like the Cerne giant is also a worshipping place of the Goddess Epona. Hence there may be a connection between the white mare of the fertility Goddess Epona and the white mare of the Springtime Maiden.

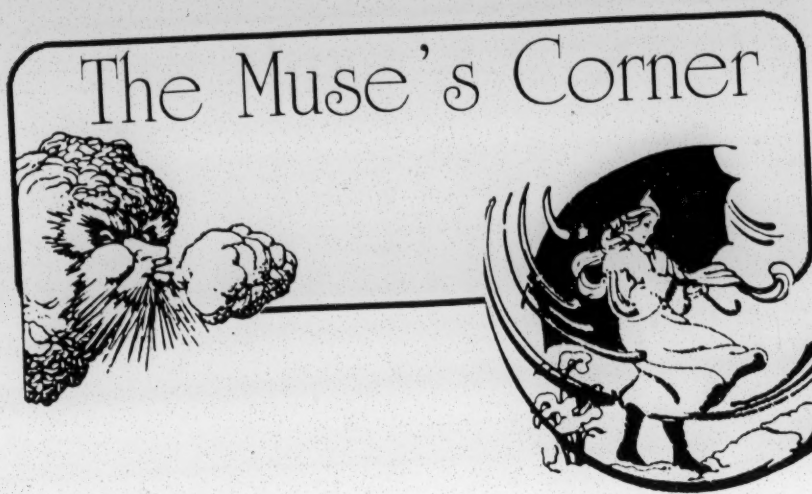
Another figure that still takes part in the modern day Maypole festivals is a man called Jack-in-the-Green who rides a horse and is covered from head to foot in plants and flowers. He is obviously a representation of the flowering of life and is later transformed into John Barleycorn who must die when the autumn winds begin to blow. The Maypole dance and Godiva processions may also have links with the hobbyhorse dances the mummers performed where the Spring Maiden is presented to the sacred penis in the statement that flowers are meant for fruiting.

In all these rituals, human representatives demonstrated openly the displays of sexual magic and wonder without shame. In this sense, sexuality is shown as it should be in its natural form rather than the gross perversions we have become accustomed to. I believe this is due to the fact that we live in a society whose dominant religion denies its dark side, assigns it to "the Devil" and therefore becomes haunted by it in even more menacing aspects. Through these reenactments, ancient peoples put themselves in tune with rather than in opposition to the rhythms of life through the sacred dance of union. In modern times, the first of May holds some vague memories of such festivals or, if one lives in the Communist world, this day represents something totally different. But in light of recent events, even this celebration will become transformed as the wheel keeps turning.

Godiva Rides Again!







SONG  
FROM AN INFANT EARTH  
TO A MOTHER SKY

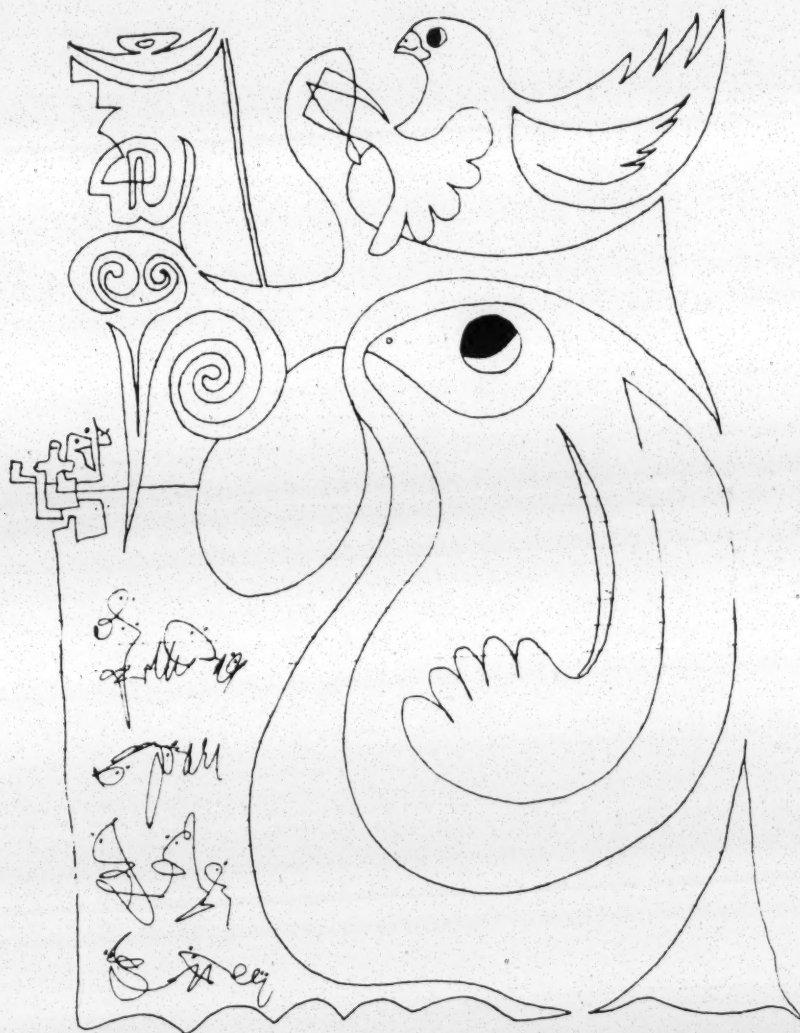
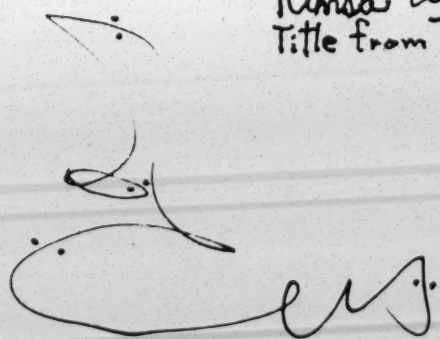
you are the sky  
i am the ground

you are all around me  
i float inside of you

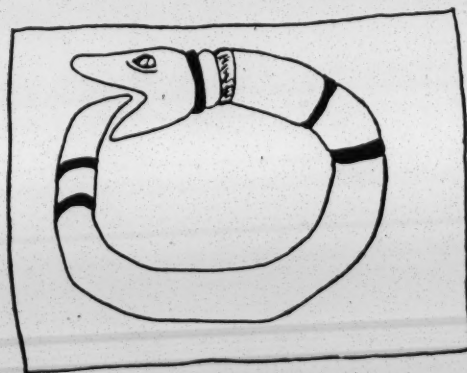
in devil heaven  
in angel hell  
you die with me  
i fly with you

you are the sky  
i am the ground

-Rinsa Earth Healer  
Title from Tony Dean Clark



•Yeerz Eey 1990→91



Sacred plaque on  
temple door in  
Africa. It is  
repainted by the  
king each year in a  
Ritual of Renewal.



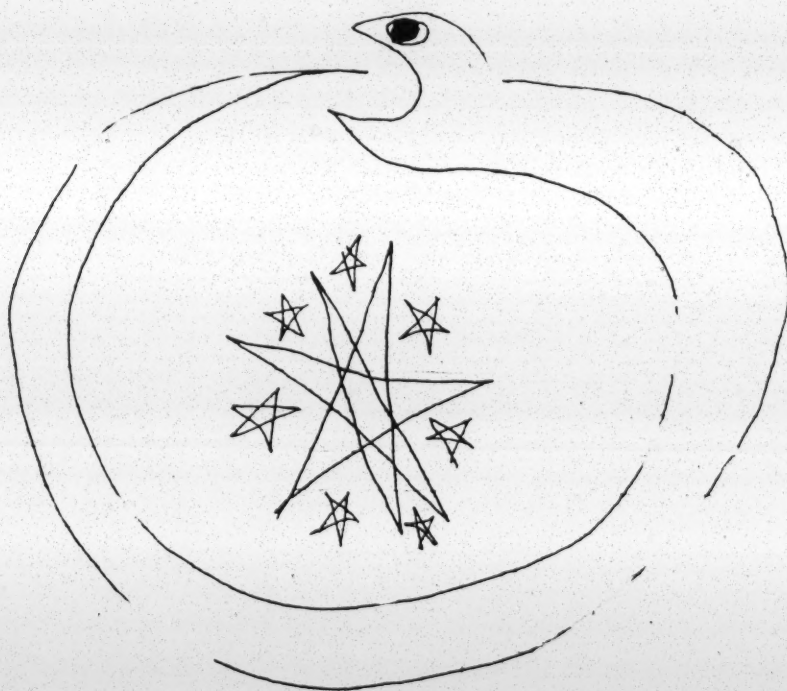
Spring Haiku

Tired wind gods bored with Winter;  
 \_\_\_ Soft April breezes.

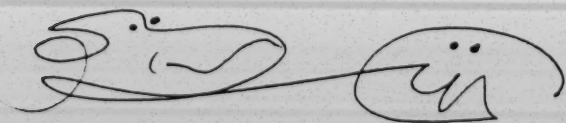
Oh!, Cherry snow, In June!;  
 \_\_\_ Wind-blown blossoms of Spring.

Green Stalagmites piercing through  
 White crystal rock;  
 \_\_\_ Crocus, of early Spring.

Kathleen Gad



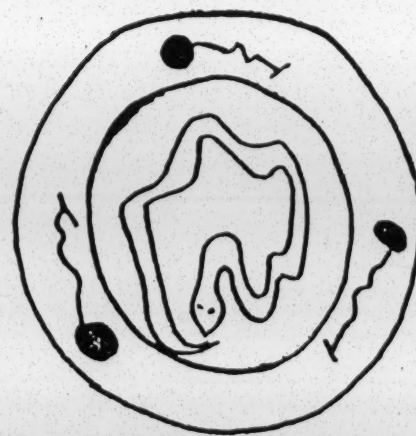
IN DEEPEST HEART  
 I AGAIN AND AGAIN  
 OFFER MYSELF  
 TO GODDESS SUPREME  
 WHO (AND WHICH) IS CONSCIOUSNESS ITSELF.  
 AIEE!  
 SHE IS ALWAYS UNFOLDING  
 (Rose, O Rainer Widderspruch...)  
 IN EACH AND EVERY ONE.  
 AOM SHREE TRIPURA HRIDAYAM SATSANG HRIM!



Rinsa Earth Healer  
 Shaman Wan Hridayam  
 Roy Dean Carlson  
 Grandfather Elf

*My eyes never  
 leave you  
 For even parted  
 I visualize desire.  
 The way we as one  
 lay...  
 while dreams  
 dance  
 Looking at your  
 eyes...  
 Ignite  
 Embrace, and we  
 burn.*

Gina K.  
 Inspired by an Aries



Talisman of  
 Damballan used in  
 Voodoo/Vodun.



## *A Letter to the Editors*

Serpents Tail,

It is good to know that you exist. I am young and learning much about myself and the Earth. I am also learning about this world we live in and traveling I have met some beautiful folks. Still, my heart is sad for all the hate and greed and confusion that is all around. I long for a time when humans lived among the forests and canyons as part of Mother Earth and Father Sky the sun rain moon plants and creatures.

Yet I realize my responsibility to this place - this society of mind-warped and sick and sad hearts. A lot of people I love! So many mean well yet are trapped in the industrialization of our Earth and ourselves. Spirits and hearts are not machines and never will be!

Mine is a winding pathway  
I have much to learn  
I am also a teacher of many with hope  
Ahhh, it feels good to write this down!

dear Creator

do you exist? who are you?  
Tell me why did you make those who do not understand our Mother Earth?  
Who do not know her at all and you don't seem to care  
What purpose does this serve?  
To be so full of stupidity and greed  
I am ashamed of my ancestors who killed off and made slaves of wise people and animals - still to this day...  
Do they not understand sisterhood? Brotherhood?  
They disgrace their own Mother Earth, their home she cannot breathe  
How can she survive to be raped and her creatures dishonored?  
Who are these people with hate so thick that they do not understand much of anything?  
Why are they living on Earth to destroy her?  
Well then - who am I?  
What am I to do?  
Why does my heart hurt like this?  
Please lead me  
I am strong  
The Earth is powerfull  
I am daughter of Mother Earth  
I am green I am brown  
I am white

Let the Rain cleanse my spirit  
As the Earth and Sky make love  
Never before have we been so close to ruination  
segregation alien nation pollution of ourselves and  
our Earth and Sky  
Death sick and distorted  
Time is upon us for a Gentle Revolution  
An evolution of our hearts and minds  
Spirits growing

To look inside yourself  
means to find  
the magic of the Earth  
the rivers the mountains  
the canyons and the forests  
the spirit of fire  
Spring winds may carry you  
through the mystery of truth  
ALIVE

What is this wonder  
this fire  
inside me?  
I have seen  
the hate the greed the sickness

I have felt  
a taste of the pain  
WE ARE TIRED  
from this Warpath with No Reason  
I have seen

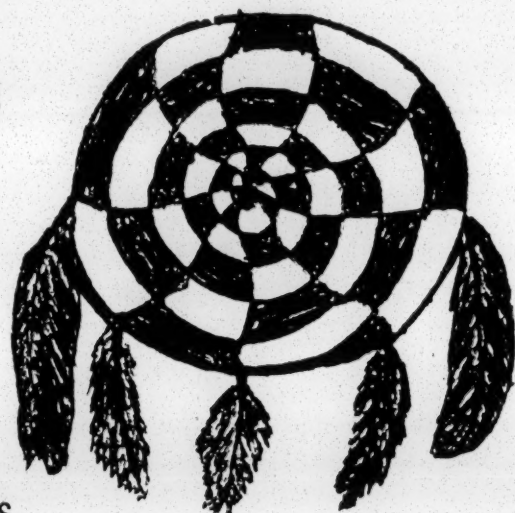
those souls rising up  
angry strong sad speakers of Truth who refuse to  
live the lie  
I have hope

You see, this fire burns  
this fire burns....

I have had dreams about going  
into the Earth inside the womb  
for safety from society's destruction. I wonder if  
you all know of any myths, ideas, songs which  
relate to this.

I am sending 10 bucks for all four  
seasons starting with Cold Snow Season.  
Reallived by Kindred Spirits,  
In Peace,

Carter Draves  
West Lafayette, IN  
Planet Earth



All Life is Sacred

OPEN  
YOUR EYES



# As the Wheel Turns Astro Advice from Emery Pendragon...



## Horoscopes for March 21st, 1991 through June 20st, 1991

### Aries (March 21 -April 20)

**March** - Focus on relationships and friendships. Keep speculations to a minimum.

**April** - Arguments with authorities will occur. Mercury will go retrograde on the fifth. Be sure to have all your car repairs done by this time. If you can't, then wait until after the twenty-eighth. The new moon will supply inspiration and feelings will become more intense.

**May** - A great deal of nervous energy will be displayed. Arguments in the household will cause foundations to shake. The situation will change when Venus transits Cancer. Travel plans may change near the full moon.

**June** - Avoid accidents by watching speed limits and driving defensively. Feelings concerning a love affair may change. Goals may change. June could be your lucky month.

### Taurus (April 21 - May 20)

**March** - Taureans' financial picture looks better; however, avoid speculations at any level. Be responsible.

**April** - Be very careful around the house, especially when using sharp instruments. Arguments with authoritative figures may take place. Taureans will feel particularly creative toward the end of the month. Partners financial picture will change on the twenty-eighth.

**May** - Financial picture will change around the fourteenth. You may find yourself worrying about these finances but if you act responsibly now, you will not

have to pay dearly later. You may want to do some redecorating around the seventeenth. Don't depend on speculations to pay off toward the end of the month.

**June** - Taureans will see the error of their ways and should study Mars influence in order to change them.

### Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

**March** - Tact and diplomacy is called for at this time. Conflicts with overbearing people may occur. Use caution when driving and watch speed limits. You may not be able to think clearly, don't make hasty decisions. Changes in long-term relationships will occur.

**April** - Mercury goes retrograde on the fifth. Be careful of accidents. New moon on the fourteenth is a good time to start a new project. Geminis may find themselves socializing more than usual this month. Mercury goes direct on the twenty-eighth. Luck returns for some Geminis.

**May** - Geminis may find themselves writing for enjoyment this month. Long distance travel plans may change later in the month. You may find yourself changing your mind on something you have been wanting to do for a long time.

**June** - Creative energy will continue to grow. Follow your instincts.

### Cancer (June 21 - July 20)

**March** - Cancers may find themselves facing deadlines they won't possibly meet. Sort things out and take your time -- haste makes waste. Relationships that are out of balance will cause stress.

**April** - Mercury's retrogradation may cause temporary memory lapses. Cancers may find themselves lacking energy and ambition until the new moon. Financial picture may change around the twenty-first and your moods will change quite rapidly.

**May** - Nervous conditions will still exist this month. Decisions will be hard to make.



**June** - The first couple of weeks in June should be pleasant and calm, enjoy them.

#### Leo (July 21 - August 20)

**March** - Friendships and love relationships will be tested. Study Saturn transit. Jupiter goes direct and optimism will return.

**April** - Mercury goes retrograde this month on the fifth. Now would not be a good time to start new projects or car repairs. Egos clash around the twenty-first. If you're having a problem with your taxes, the problem may be solved around the twenty-eighth. Mercury goes direct on the twenty-eighth.

**May** - Ego clashes continue to plague the Leo native. Children could become an issue. You may feel like cancelling your present travel plans due to lack of finances. Wait until the full moon before making any decisions.

**June** - Leos will be very busy attending social events this month. Don't let your ego get the best of you. Trust your instincts.

#### Virgo (August 21 - September 20)

**March** - Finances look better for the rest of the month. Nervousness will subside and you will feel better.

**April** - Virgo's moods will change quite rapidly in April. Stomach and bowel trouble may occur through change of habit and probably won't fully settle until the twenty-first.

**May** - Your main concern this month will be money and how you can get as much as you think you need. Virgos may find themselves looking for a new home, one that will accommodate them. Trouble with maintaining schedules and communications. It will be tough to satisfy the ego. Nothing will be good enough. Travel plans will change several times before you actually make up your mind.

**June** - June is always tough on Virgos. Thinking processes go haywire and increased nervousness occurs which may produce bowel disorders and respiratory infections. This June may be the same.

#### Libra (September 21 - October 20)

**March** - Libras will be stressed out when spring arrives. Plans may go awry. This could be a good time to spend with children. Look to the full moon for relief.

**April** - Don't make hasty decisions near the new moon. Mercury goes retrograde on the fifth, and you'll have until the twenty-eighth to decide. Follow your instincts. As you do your spring cleaning, note any hazards in the home and eliminate them.

**May** - Libras may suffer from headaches and stomach disorders. Avoid overindulging.

**June** - You may find yourself reminiscing this month around the new moon. Communications and travel will be favorable in the early part of the month.

#### Scorpio (October 21 - November 20)

**March** - Finances will be highlighted for the rest of March, a decision may have to be made, you may have to be patient.

**April** - Mercury is retrograde in April. The tendency to spend money may overwhelm you. The full moon will offer a solution to your financial problems. Opportunities will change.

**May** - There will be a change in your financial outlook. Partner's finances may become involved. A sense of security will be maintained.

**June** - Don't take any risks with money in June. Take your time falling in love. New relationships probably won't last.

#### Sagittarius (November 21 - December 20)

**March** - An overwhelming urge to travel may come over you but be sure that the mode of travel is sound. What will seem like a golden opportunity may appear, but don't act hastily. Good luck may be right around the corner.

**April** - You may have the tendency to bite off more than you can chew at this time. Think things out before you commit yourself. Mercury goes retrograde on the fifth. Don't speed and beware of



accidents. Interest in the arts will increase. Your love life may look better. Mercury goes direct on the twenty-eighth. Now would be a good time to make travel plans. Financial decisions may have to be made in April.

**May** - If you are making travel plans in May, then be sure to double-check everything in advance. Don't end up doing everything at the last minute, or you may leave something behind. You may find yourself putting your foot in your mouth if you don't think before you speak. You may be faced with legal problems around the full moon.

**June** - A change in travel plans is indicated around the new moon. You may feel optimistic at the same time about a possible love affair.

#### Capricorn (December 21 - January 20)

**March** - A difference in opinion will cause stress between you and your employer. Take what you can get and be satisfied. Be aware of potential accidents involving chemicals. The foundation of your marriage or partnership may be challenged.

**April** - Your determination to get your own way will only prevent you from becoming truly inspired. Dividends could pay off later this month if warning is heeded properly. You may have to force yourself to make a decision that may cause upsets in the home. Later in the month you may become withdrawn. You will learn lessons about responsibility.

**May** - May's new moon will bring a change in your financial picture which will come in handy when you start redecorating your home. Be aware of accidents on the job and in the home.

**June** - The first three weeks in June will be very enjoyable. When the sun enters Cancer things may change.

#### Aquarius (January 21 - February 20)

**March** - Aquarians will be somewhat critical and sharp-tongued. Finances may cause stress but balance will be restored by the full moon on the thirtieth.

**April** - Aquarians will continue to experience nervousness. When Mercury goes retrograde on the fifth, some of this energy will subside. Aquarians with their sun sign in the early degrees will have Saturn on their sun. This will be payback time and if you have learned your lessons and have been responsible, you will get your reward. The new moon may inspire you to start a new project and you could find yourself holding forums with young people looking for direction. A financial plan should be drawn up before the sun enters the sign of Taurus.

**May** - Follow your instincts regarding finances. Your creativity will show signs of maturity. Long distance travel plans may go awry so be sure to double-check everything.

**June** - The first three weeks of June should be very pleasant even though you may have to make a decision concerning your potential love life.

#### Pisces (February 21 - March 20)

**March** - Pisceans will be thinking about their health and what they can do to improve it. Pisceans may suffer from a nervous stomach and may experience bowel trouble. Feelings may come out in creative projects.

**April** - Pisces will learn a valuable lesson about finances. Don't spend too much on redecorating the house. Be sure to consult an expert before taking on any major project. If you are looking for a solution to a problem, the full moon may supply it. Listen to your inner self.

**May** - Finances will change and probably for the better. Feelings toward your house will change. You will feel more secure. You may have trouble expressing your feelings the way you want to.

**June** - Problems with speech still cause stress. Don't worry about it, it's only temporary. Start any solstice plans early -- allow time for adjustments in schedules.





## Announcement and Barter Page

### Announcing a New Barter Exchange Network

The *Serpent's Tail* would like to announce a new Barter Exchange Network section. It is an alternative to an "advertising" page in that we would like to receive announcements from members of the community offering goods and services that they would like to trade or barter with other network members. The trade or barter agreement would be left to the discretion of the parties involved as to whether they would want to exchange money or goods and services.

We prefer hand-crafted or home business items and products that are ecologically safe and conscious. Our attempt here is to be a proponent of alternatives to the mainstream and to enable more dependence on each other rather than on the dictates of an enormous corporate monoeconoculture. We reserve our right as the editorial board to accept or reject material within this broad framework. If you feel that you have goods & services that you can offer to the exchange network, please contact us.

Announcements are free in exchange for a membership (\$10) which also entitles you to four seasonal issues. We prefer announcements that are copy-ready and written in standard business-card size. It is also possible for us to do the typesetting for you.

*Power to the People!*

### THE DREAMWEAVER



*This wonderful publication  
with a Native American  
flavor will be sent free  
to all those who request it or  
wish to exchange newsletters.  
All ads are run free of charge  
but donations are  
never turned away!!*



To contribute articles of interest, letters to the editor, pen pals wanted, donations of either \$\$ or stamps, send all correspondence to:  
Ladyhawk  
POB 150692 Ft. Worth, TX 76108

### Come Celebrate the Changing of the Seasons through Earth-Honoring Rituals held at the First Unitarian Church of Milwaukee 1009 East Ogden Avenue (Astor at Ogden)

Spring Equinox - Sunday, March 24th at  
4:00 p.m. (Bring an object symbolizing  
balance)

Beltane - Sunday, April 28th at 4:00  
p.m.

(Meet at the church - the ritual may be  
held outside at another location)

Bring a potluck dish to share with all...

Notes from Tarchonera is the official newsletter of Goddess Chapter, an informal network of Neopagans whose familial roots stretch back to the Colonial Era in the New World. It focuses primarily on the various aspects of personal, familial, cultural, and religious heritage. Notes from Tarchonera is published quarterly, Goddess willing, near Beltane, Lamas, Samhain, and Imbolc. It is sent free of charge to all Goddess Chapter members and to various other Neopagans known to qualify for membership. Neopagans who are not Goddess Chapter members are welcome to subscribe at the non-member rate of \$5/4 issues. We also exchange with other Neopagan publications. We welcome with open arms the submission of articles within the general area of heritage, on genealogy, or on any other topic that may be of interest to the Neopagan community. The deadlines are one month prior to the scheduled publication dates. Beket is the publisher, editor, and general factotum.

c/o Beket • PO Box 8212 • Madison, WI 53708





# JOIN HANDS in the DANCE



Michigan / Ohio Valley / Central Midwest / Ohio Meadville  
Regional Conference & District Caucuses\*

April 12 - 14  
Circle Pines  
Michigan

\* a regional project of CUUPS chapters and individuals  
**Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans**

CAUCUS n. (Algonquin) meeting of a small group within a larger whole to plan policy and set direction

DANCE v. (Pagan) 1. an activity serving to synchronize the energies of a group so that it may then be directed to an agreed-upon goal  
2. ritual action

Come dance, plot, plan, network, caucus, make sing, feast, dream and actualize. Bring your hopes, schemes, dreams, fears, desires and visions for the future. Create a grassroots plan that fits your districts needs and aspirations.

#### Facilities

Circle Pines is a non-profit cooperative education center on 284 acres of meadows and woods in the midst of 14,000 acres of state wildlands near Kalamazoo, Michigan. Circle Pines offers a relaxed rural setting with an organic garden and orchard, wood-fired sauna, miles of scenic trails, and a spring-fed lake. Indoor meeting rooms will be available for full-conference and smaller caucus meetings.

Housing is dormitory style in rustic cabins and lodges. Please bring bedding and towels. Meals are family style with vegetarian alternatives to all meat dishes. Special diets can be accommodated if you attach a list of your requirements to your registration.

#### Fees

Registration includes housing, three meals Saturday, Breakfast and dinner Sunday.  
\$99-\$125 per adult  
(sliding scale, you decide)

\$50 per child under 12.

Limited scholarships are available. Apply by writing the Registrar before April 1. To comply with Circle Pines's policies, we cannot accept registrations at the door. Registrations must be received by April 5.

REGISTRATION *Join Hands in the Dance* April 12-14, 1991  
( ) ( )

name phone day eve

street address city state zipcode

congregation district CUUPS member? Chapter member

#### SPECIAL NEEDS

☐ Feed me like a vegetarian.  
☐ My dietary restrictions are attached.  
☐ I have other special needs. Please call me collect.

#### FEES

Adult Registration \$99-\$125 (sliding scale you decide) \$  
Child Registration \$50 \$  
Scholarship Fund \$  
I cannot attend, but send me future mailings and the report for my district. (Please enclose \$1.) \$

Please send checks payable to David Burwasser, Registrar c/o Unitarian Society of Cleveland, 2728 Lancashire, Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44106. You will receive a detailed map along with confirmation of your registration. DEADLINE APRIL 5

For more information about the  
CUUPS Conference,  
contact Christa Heiden  
at (312)334-7478

#### PLANET FEST '91

second annual  
PLANET PEACE FESTIVAL

July 11 - 14th, 1991

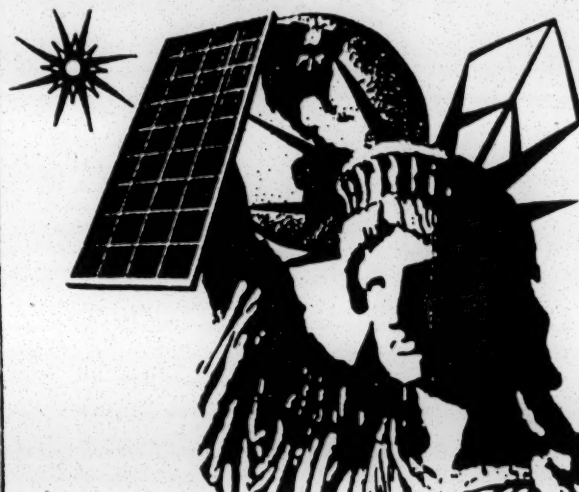
Lothlorien Nature Sanctuary  
Bedford / Bloomington, Indiana

Public Invited!

#### Featuring:

Displays & Demonstrations of Clean Energy Technology

solar heating & cooling - wind & waterpower - biogas  
photovoltaics - thermoelectrics - alcohol & vegetable of fuels  
solar water distillation - solar cooking - super insulation  
building with recycled materials - composting privies -  
grey water systems - solar cars



#### AND MORE . . .

Information Booths & Networking Contacts

Environmental Awareness Education

Entertainment - Music - Dance

Arts & Crafts Displays

Admission to Planet Fest - \$5 per day -- Adults  
\$3 per day -- 13 yrs & up  
FREE -- 12 & under

Booth Space - only \$10 per day  
(bring your own table)

Camping Space Extra - 1 night -- \$8 per tent/camper\*  
2 nights for \$14  
3 nights for \$20

\*large bus & RV space is VERY LIMITED and you must contact us in advance to make arrangements - tents, tips, & small pop-up campers will have no problem camping.

#### Special Rates For Entire Event:

Includes 3 days admission, 3 nights camping, and booth space for only \$50 per tent / family before June 1st.

Planet Fest '90 was a great success. This year will be even finer. The admission / camping / booth rates are much lower, the networking is better, the time is even more ripe for exploring PEACE on Earth. Planet Fest '91 will focus strongly on community networking. Please attend.

Send check or money order to PPF '91 c/o EBPX,  
PO Box 1328, Bloomington, Indiana 47402-1328

Send 2 stamps for more detailed information

Call (812) 332-0048 for personal contact

**Register Soon!**



6TH

ANNUAL

# HEARTLAND PAGAN FESTIVAL 1991

May 24, 25, 26 &amp; 27

## Olde Tyne Religion

### SPEAKERS

**JANET AND STEWART FARRAR** -  
We're proud to have been chosen as one of the stops on their United States Tour. Authors of *What Witches Do*, *Eight Sabbats For Witches*, *Witches Way Together*, *A Witches Bible Compendium*, *The Witches' Goddess*, *Life and Times of a Modern Witch*, and *The Witches' God*.

### EVENTS

**BARDIC CIRCLE/PAGAN FOLLIES** -  
Bring your instruments, stories, readings, skits, etc. The more the merrier.

**HERO'S JOURNEY** -  
Formerly called the Vision Quest. A psychically and physically demanding descent to the center of self.

Due to a change in Campsites, there will be a 500 person maximum as well as some rate changes. Registration packets with complete and updated information will be sent to all HPF 1990 attendees by January 5th. Please send us any address changes prior to that date to avoid delays.

If you did not attend HPF 1990 please send \$1.00 for Registration Packet.

Limited work exchange positions are available this year, please contact us ASAP and definitely before March 1st for details.

First cutoff will be April 1st for lowest entry rate and all merchant space. Final cutoff will be May 1st. "Full Festival" and "Day Passes" are only available by preregistration. There will be no on site registration. Please do not put us in the position of turning you away.

No money will be accepted without a completed registration form and any registrations received after we reach 500 people or postmarked after May 1st (whichever comes first) will be returned.

**YOU MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED TO ATTEND.**

For further information contact:  
**The Heartland Spiritual Alliance**  
P.O. Box 3407  
Kansas City, KS 66103  
816/561-6111

### MUSICIANS

**KENNY AND TZIPORA** -  
Back again to share their own special blend of Folk and Pagan music.

**EMERALD SKYE** -  
Returning this year with Celtic and Pagan music.

**LANE LAMBERT** -  
Her debut as a performer at Heartland. She plays Harp, writes music and is accompanied by Patrick Chambers on guitar.

### WITCHES BALL

Come as you were or wish you were. Costumes encouraged. Bring your own tapes for variety of music. We'll provide the means to play them.

### DRUMMING CIRCLE

Special space for drumming and carvoting till the wee hours!

### HEARTLAND SPIRITUAL ALLIANCE

The Heartland Spiritual Alliance was established in September 1987, as a legally recognized not-for-profit organization, to assume the responsibilities of the Heartland Festival, previously presented by the unincorporated Council of the Southwind. The HSA is now comprised of some of the previous members of CSW as well as other supporters from the community.

We are an eclectic, ecumenical, religious and educational organization primarily composed of pantheists, Eco-Spiritualists, people who believe that there is divinity in all things and that it is both our privilege and responsibility to work with all of nature. We are dedicated to religious tolerance and a multiplicity of religious perspectives. Most of our educational concerns deal with the various pre-Christian nature religions of the world and the respectful free exchange of spiritual beliefs.

At its inception the HSA's sole interest was the organization and presentation of the Heartland Pagan Festival, however over the years it has expanded to sponsor the Pagan Parenting Support Group (1988); becoming a contributing sponsor to Turn The World Around, a pagan radio program on KKFI, a community radio station (1990); has begun a Networking and Educational group on a monthly basis, The Heartland Spirit Circle, working with the KC CUUPS (1990); is publishing a bi-monthly newsletter update for members at all levels (1990); and is helping raise money to contribute to Tuatha de Terre for the purchase of land to be run as a camp by and for Pagan and like minded groups.

The Heartland Pagan Festival itself is a four day event held over Memorial Day weekend and is set up to bring in well-known Keynote Speakers and Musicians as well as to coordinate the exchange of ideas and knowledge by setting up workshop space and times that are filled by the participants. It is usual to have 5 to 7 workshops being presented simultaneously throughout the day to allow for a wide selection. We have a large merchant area comprised mainly of artisans and their work, as well as a few commercial merchants. Other "traditional" HPF events are the Vision Quest, Costume Ball, Bardic Circle/Pagan Follies, The Littlefolk Festival and of course Rituals of many types.

Milwaukee Contact: Julie or Kevin  
344-5745

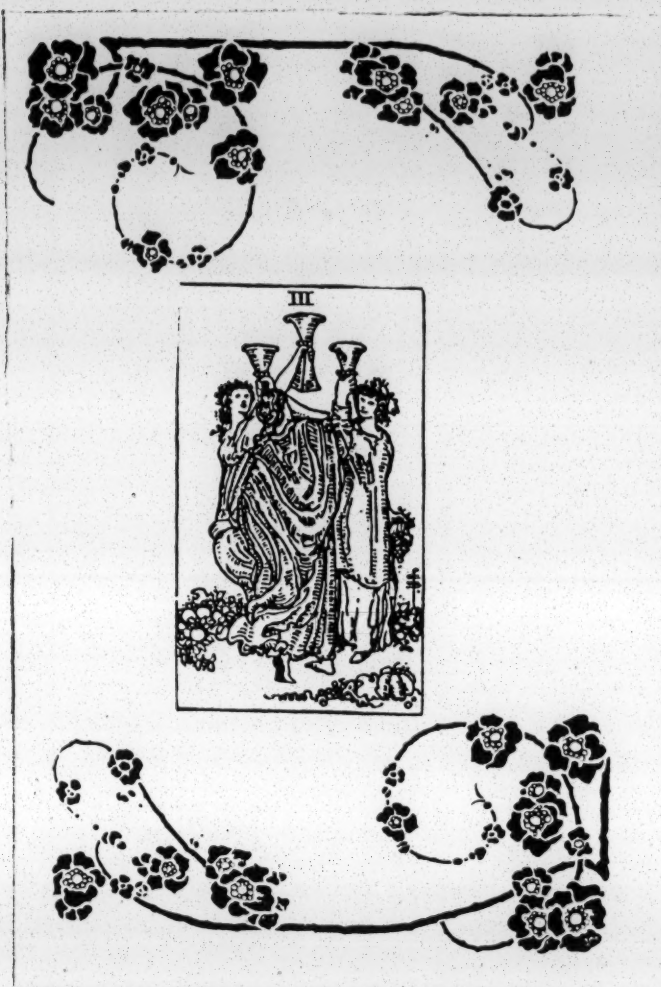
For car pooling and food-co-oping information

If you would like to become an integral part in the production of *The Serpent's Tail* and have good English editing skills, please contact us. We would like to have your expertise and input!

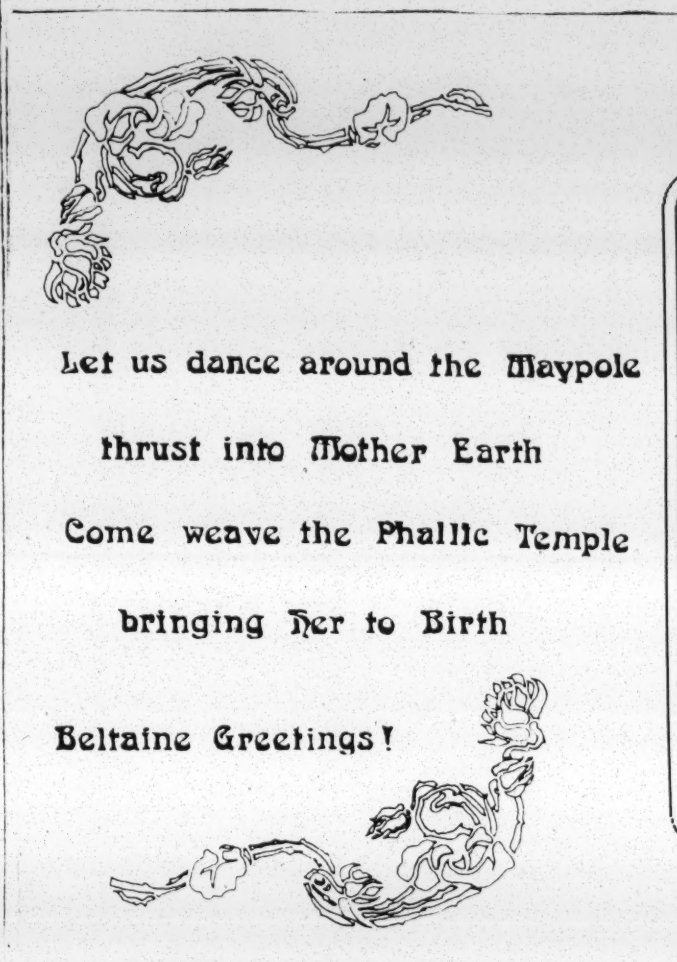
### --WANTED TO BARTER--

Homemade bread/bread baking lessons/desk-top publishing service/light hauling with pickup truck available in exchange for help with renovation-repair on River-west duplex. Call 264-0748 for further info!!!





Beltane Cover



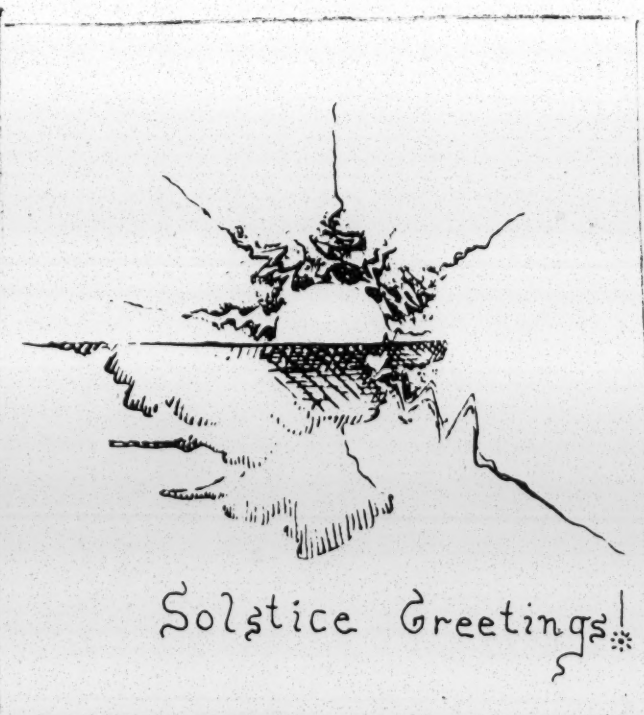
Beltane inside

Would you like an  
originally-designed  
Beltane or Summer  
Solstice  
Greeting card  
that you can't buy  
at Hallmark?

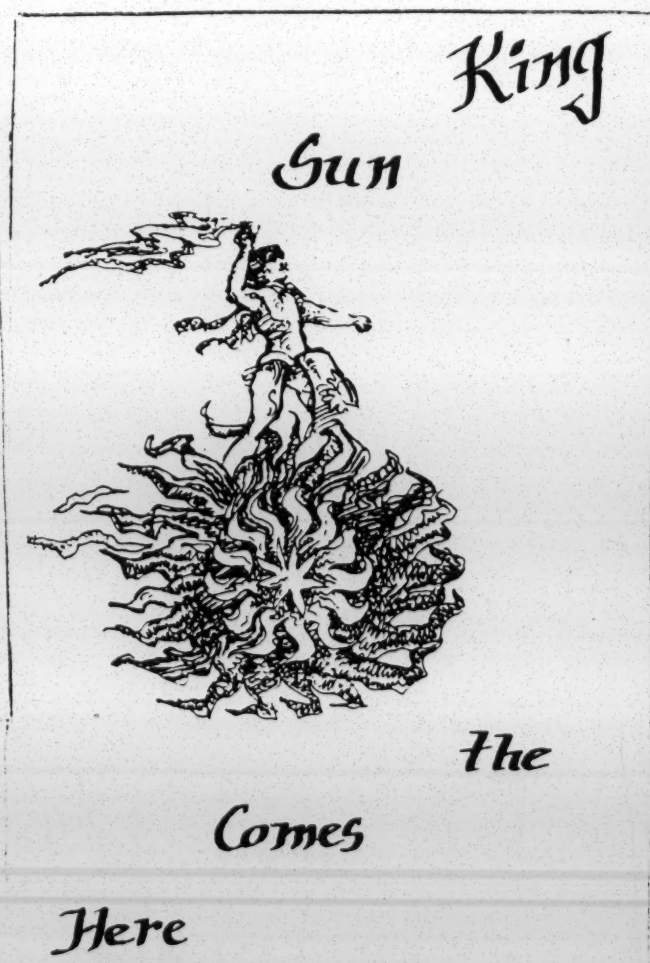
*Then contact The Serpent's Tail  
and let us know which ones  
you would like.  
They sell for 75 cents  
or can be bartered  
for something  
you may want to trade!*



Solstice Cover #1



Solstice inside



Solstice Cover #2

#### Editorial Policy

We encourage our readers to make any contributions to the journal such as articles, poetry, art work, etc. Please see our more detailed call for contributors in the back. Our next issue will be out by the Summer Solstice, June 21st, 1991. The deadline for submissions will be June 1st, 1991. We will send you a release form allowing us to print your article and to make any grammatical corrections. Please send copies of your submission to: The Serpent's Tail, P.O. Box 07437, Milwaukee, WI 53207.





# THE SERPENT'S TAIL



## A CALL TO ALL

*Shamans, Magicians, Amazons, Networkers, Rainbow Warriors, Fairies, Cooperators, Satyrs, Nymphs, Tribespeople, Forestfolk, Wizards, Elves, Witches, Gypsies, Ecnauts, Pythonesses, Recyclers, Consciousness Explorers and Treehuggers..*

## PLEASE SUBMIT

*articles, poems, essays, invocations, rituals, recipes,  
chants, songs, artwork, letters to the editor, announcements, etc.*

## ON THESE TOPICS

*Astrology, Herbalism, Magick, Wicca, Shamanism, Comparative Mythologies, Buddhism, Goddess Worship, Native American, Egyptian Mysteries, Environmental Issues, Tarot, I Ching, Runes, Seasonal Subjects and other New Aeon-Related topics to:*

*The Serpent's Tail, P.O. Box 07437, Milwaukee, WI 53207*



*Make your Contributions in Creating  
the New Myths for the  
New Aeon!*





# A CALL TO ALL

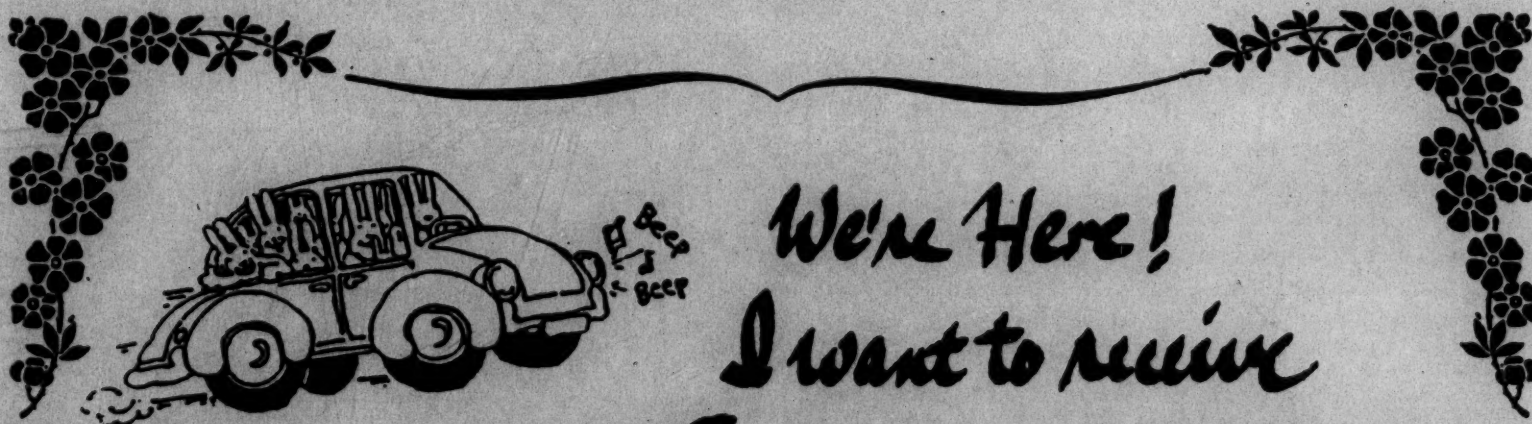


Would you like us to keep (re)creating The Serpent's Tail for the seasonal transitions? Here at the core (editorial board) we are finding the \$\$ side becoming too much for just us to bear. We are weaving a sustaining web. We ask your support in strengthening the connections...

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